

**REMARKS**

Entry and consideration of this Preliminary Amendment are respectfully requested prior to or concurrent with calculation of the filing fees.

The present application is a division of parent application U.S. Serial No. 10/102,732, filed March 22, 2002, which is a division of Serial No. 09/758,427, filed January 12, 2001 (U.S. Patent No. 6,563,395), which is a division of Serial No. 09/150,012, filed September 9, 1998 (U.S. Patent No. 6,201,439). Accordingly, a cross-referencing statement has been added to the specification. Also, the specification is amended hereby to maintain it in the same form as that of its parent application.

As to the claims, claims 1-7 and 9-22 have been cancelled. They have been prosecuted in the predecessor application. Claim 8 remains pending in this application. Claim 8 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of original claim 7 therein. This places claim 8 in independent form. In so amending claim 8, editorial changes also have been made, but these are not considered to narrow the scope of original claim 8 and certainly are not so intended.

Respectfully submitted,

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP



Michael A. Makuch, Reg. 32,263  
1850 M Street, NW – Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20036  
Telephone : 202/263-4300  
Facsimile : 202/263-4329

Date : November 12, 2004